

M2/370/8

4 September 1973

Dear Leon,

It is some time since I have written to you but we have received a letter from Professor Joshua Lederberg and we hope that you may be able to help us answer it.

He quoted from the Technical Report Series No. 529 "Chemotherapy of malaria and resistance to antimalarials", page 110 "Furthermore, owl monkeys trapped in southern Colombia or Peru have a high incidence of filarial infections; since animals so infected appear to be almost completely immune to infection with P. falciparum, their value for malaria studies is largely nullified". Professor Lederberg raises the point whether this is just a nuisance or a lead that should be followed up experimentally and epidemiologically. In other words, is there any obvious association between the presence of filarial infections and the absence of malaria. As far as we are aware, such observations are not confirmed in man where dual infections occur.

If you have any further information on this point, I would be most grateful to hear from you on this.

We had the pleasure of a visit from your niece or grand-niece a few weeks ago when she was in Geneva - Miss Gunther. I hope that I was able to give her the information she wanted but I said she really should have asked you for this information before she left.

Kind personal regards to Ida and yourself.

Yours sincerely,

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cc: Dr H. Goodman, Director, TDR